

Grace Church Visitor.

A Monthly Magazine Devoted to the Interest of Grace Reformed Church.

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA.

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No. 8.

Grace Reformed Church.

East Washington St., between Barr and Lafayette

REV. A. K. ZARTMAN, PASTOR.

Residence, 320 E. Washington St.

SABBATH SERVICES.

Sabbath School.....	9:30 A. M.
Church Service.....	10:30 A. M. and 7:30 P. M.
Y. P. S. C. E.	6:45 P. M.
Junior Y. P. S. C. E.	2 P. M.
Prayer Meeting, Wednesday	7:30 P. M.

THE MAN WITH A CLEAN LIFE will be the subject of the pastor's sermon to men only, Sabbath evening, June 19th.

Sabbath June 26th the State Christian Endeavor convention will be in session in Fort Wayne. We shall have some delegate speak for us at our morning service, possibly Mr. Vogt, who is now secretary of the United Society.

At the May meeting of the consistency, the pastor was instructed to order ten tons of coal for the church for next winter. It was also ordered that at some Sabbath service an offering should be received to pay for the coal. Every member of the church is interested in this matter of fuel for the church. We are planning to have the church comfortable next winter, to do this will mean some extra expense.

For more than a month past the pastor has been speaking on the 15th chapter of John at the Wednesday evening prayer meeting. The general topic has been The Vine and the Branches. It has been a great pleasure to us to have the privilege of studying this chapter together, and we trust all have been greatly profited. The pastor will give at least two more prayer meeting talks on the chapter. Wednesday evening June 22nd the subject will be "Jesus' Friends." June 29th "The Comforter."

In the Sunday School contest so far the ladies are ahead in securing new scholars, however there is no telling what the finale may be. If our Syrian friends continue coming each Sabbath in increased numbers the reds will soon be far in the lead. Look up some new scholars and do it very soon, the contest closes with June 26th.

We hope to see every man who is a member of Grace Church at the service for men only, Sabbath evening, June 19th. Come and bring half a dozen, or more men with you.

Mr. Robert Niedhammer has been promoted to a position with the Pennsylvania Co. at Mahoningtown, Pa. We wish him success in his new work.

Why the Men do not, and why the Men Should Attend Church.

The series of Sabbath evening sermons the pastor is preaching to men, has been attracting some special attention. There have been more men at our evening services than formerly, and we hope to see some good results. The complaint is made that the men do not attend church. We all know that there is abundant ground for this charge. Some men do attend church and are regular in their attendance, and do what they can to support the church and their pastor. Many men, however, who are connected with our churches are only occasional visitors at the services. This is evidence of the fact that there is something wrong somewhere. Upon a recent Sabbath more than a half a hundred of the men of Grace Church were not in attendance upon any of our services. During the past two or three weeks the pastor has talked with many men upon this perplexing problem, and has received communications through the mails. One man sent a communication assigning forty reasons why men did not attend church. In one paragraph he says, "if the men of the church have no interest in the church services why should a man outside show any interest!" This question is to the point. It must be a puzzling thing to non-church-goers to understand why they should be expected to attend the church services if church members themselves do not attend. Some men are the avowed enemies of the church and the gospel and therefore have no interest in the church, but our information leads us to conclude that the

great mass* of men are not confirmed enemies of the gospel, but stand aloof from the church because the church is not what it should be. Church members are not living up to their profession; they are indifferent, worldly as the men of the world, and in so many ways and things do as the world does. The church lacks in sincerity, and in a real sympathy and interest in the unsaved. This is the stone of stumbling to the unsaved. We believe that the men may be won for Christ and can be interested in the church and its work, but two things need to be changed. The men in the church must get right with God, and do what is right, and then in some way the spirit of indifference which is abroad in the world must be counteracted, then we can hope to see the men come into the kingdom. Perhaps the church services often lack in spiritual power. Men come to the services hungry and thirsty but are turned away dissatisfied. The church often lacks in hospitality. The spirit of Christ is wanting. Men will not go where they are not made welcome. The church is charged with coldness and indifference to strangers. Surely something is wrong somewhere. The men should be won for Christ. They need to be saved. Let us pray that the Lord may show us what is wrong, and that he may give us access to the hearts of the men, and that he may make us fishers of men.

On a recent Sabbath morning three Syrians came to the vestibule of the church auditorium, opened the door and then halted, evidently waiting for an invitation to enter. The pastor

was at the time hearing his Bible Class in the auditorium; the strangers were cordially invited to take seats with the class, and were supplied with lesson quarterlies. Among this trio was one who understood, and could speak the English language quite well. They were attentive, and were very much interested in the lesson. At the conclusion of the lesson they were invited to the lecture rooms for the closing service of the Sunday School. They seemed delighted with the service and were invited to remain for the church service, which they did. In a brief conversation which the pastor had with them, he learned that they had come in touch with the missionaries in their home country, near old Damascus. They were invited to come back to the Sunday School and become regular scholars, and to ask others of their Syrian friends to come with them. On the following Sabbath, they came again, bringing six others of their country-men with them. We are not certain that all of them could understand the English, but those who could; we noticed acted as interpreters for some of their friends who evidently are not very familiar with our language. They are to us an interesting class of men and we hope we shall be able to hold them and do them some good. So far we have not been able to learn very much about their religious status. We judge that some of them are Christians, perhaps all of them. We presume it will be best to form a special class for them and have some one teach them who can give particular attention to their needs. There is some mystery connected with

their coming to Grace Church. Fort Wayne has a large colony of Syrians, we are told a thousand or more. For sometime the pastor has been anxious to come into touch with these people, for he has felt that some one ought to do something for them. And then too we have been praying that the Lord might give us access to the hearts of men, that we might win men for Christ. We believe the Lord has heard, and is in these days answering our prayers, and has sent these men to Grace Church, and is giving us an opportunity to win them for Christ. Just now we are making a special effort in behalf of these men. Does it not seem as if the Lord was opening a door for us and answering our prayers? Grace Church may just now have thrust upon her very great and serious responsibilities. God has set an open door before us, what are we going to do about it? We talk about, and pray for missions in Japan and China, but now the foreign field has opened for us at our very doors. Will we embrace this opportunity of special work for our Lord? What an opportunity of doing foreign missionary work right at our doors! We are asking the Lord to interpret to us his will and purpose in this work. Above all let us give these strangers a welcome and do for them what we can. They are God's children, and let us fear lest we might in some way grieve the Holy Spirit, who evidently is at present working mightily among us. We have been praying for a harvest and may it not be true that it is now at hand? Will we go forth to the harvest and gather sheaves for our Lord?

Grace Church Visitor

REV. A. K. ZARTMAN, Editor and Publisher.

Subscription, 25 cents per year in advance.

Don't forget the young people's social is July 14th.

The address of Mr. and Mrs. B. G. Mains is changed to 2020 Fairfield Avenue.

Mrs. Sadie Boals was received into Grace Church at our anniversary service May 22nd.

Miss Jennie Huston of Albion, Ind., was a guest at the Parsonage last week. Miss Huston was a member of the class of '02 of Heidelberg University.

Saturday morning, June 25, the ladies of Grace Church will serve the Junior lunch in the lecture rooms of the church. There must be a good representation of the ladies, so that the work will not fall upon few only.

The following members of St. Joseph Classis were present at the special meeting held in Grace Church May 26th: Ministers—H. S. Nicholson, H. A. Welker, Geo. Longaker, J. H. String; Elders—Geo. Luckabauch, John Warner, L. W. Hills.

May 21st the pastor's mother celebrated her 88th birthday anniversary. In a letter just received from home, we are informed that recently she made a trip of nearly three miles across the country, and spent the day with our oldest sister, Mrs. Mechling. This would indicate that mother was in fairly good health.

The hot weather season will now be upon us very soon, and with it will come the multiplied temptations to many church members of absenting themselves on the Sabbath from the worship in God's house. The Sunday excursion, the Sunday visiting, the Sunday outing, in some way or other, is a temptation against which some church members are not very strongly fortified. Conscience and the Holy Spirit remonstrate but the flesh is weak. It behooves every Christian to take a firm stand for the right and then stand by his convictions, regardless of what inducements the tempter may offer, or what other men or women may do. God expects his people to be loyal to him, and to be a people separated from the world, and its ways. A business man who has made a careful study of the Sunday problem, says, "The Sabbath observers and church goers are in a far better condition to enter upon work on Monday morning than those who spend the Sunday in pleasures, even of a comparatively innocent nature." We must always hold that obedience to God's laws is not only right, but conducive to man's highest good and happiness.

Sabbath, July 10th will be observed as memorial day in Grace Church. In the morning at 10:30, the pastor will preach a sermon in memory of the members and friends of the church, who have died during the present pastorate. The families in which the pastor has officiated at funerals are specially invited to this service.

Before long we must plan for our annual Sunday school outing and picnic.

June 1907

MARRIAGES:—Wednesday evening, June 8th at the home of Mr. and Mrs. David Walter their daughter Daisy Frances was married to Mr. Henry W. Kronmiller. This was a very pretty little home wedding. About forty guests were present to witness the ceremony and to partake of the wedding supper. Early in the evening the groom and bride went to their own home 229 W. Williams Street, furnished and ready for occupancy.

June 15 at the parsonage, Mr. John Ray and Miss Ida Payne were united in marriage. This was a quiet wedding no person being present save the pastors family. Mr. and Mrs. Payne will reside for the present with friends on Archer Ave.

THE VISITOR extends hearty congratulations to all these young friends.

Henry Zumbro died at his home on Elm St., June 8th. He was born in Franklin Co., Pa., June 24, 1833. Was aged 70 years, 11 months and 14 days. He was married to Miss Mary Cromer, Jan. 10, 1855. The family came to Allen Co., Ind., in 1865. Mr. Zumbro united with the Reformed Church at an early period of his life. He was an honest and upright citizen, and a kind husband and father. He leaves to mourn his death his wife, four sons and two daughters; two sons died in infancy. The funeral services were held from the home on Friday afternoon, June 10th.

The flower committee of the young people's society request any member of the church who may have flowers to bring them to the church for the decoration of the pulpit. After the services these flowers are to be sent to the sick of the church.

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TOPICS AND LEADERS.

JULY.

3. Christian Patriotism. Rom. 13: 1-7
Pet. 2: 13-17 Good Citizenship Committee.

10 Modern Idols and their overthrow.
Luke 12: 15-21 Phil. 3: 17-19 DeEtta
Masterson.

17 Universal Peace. Psa. 46: 2-11 Isa.
2: 2-4 Elsie Weikart.

24 The Spirit of Caste. Jas. 2: 1-9
Matt. 23: 8-12 Look Out Committee.

We wish more of our people would agree to entertain delegates to the C. E. convention. In several of the churches over a hundred places have been secured, while only twelve delegates are to be entertained by the members of our church. The commitments five hundred places by Wednesday, June 22nd. What is to be done with these delegates if the Christian people will not take them in? They do not come asking for free entertainment but are willing to pay a dollar a day. Will not more of the people of Grace Church open their homes to these young people?

The young people have decided to give an ice cream social in the lecture rooms Thursday evening, July 14th. Our young people have been regular in their attendance at the socials given by the older people and have been very faithful in their work this winter, so we would ask for them a large attendance at their social.

The next business meeting of the C. E. will be held at Robison Park, Tuesday evening, July 5th. All the young people are to meet at the church so they can take the 7:30 car from the transfer corner. Should it rain on Tuesday evening the meeting will be held Thursday.

Sunday morning, May 22nd, the pastor baptized the following children:—James Russell Kent, Elsie Vera Kent, Edward Herman Riley and Ruth Evelyn Durnell.

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